

know the outcome of that bill. I don't know whether it is still held in committee, or whether it has been indefinitely postponed. But what I'm trying to say is that we elect our officials. We do have the home rule charter. Let us take care of our own. Let us not constantly have a vindictiveness against the City of Omaha. Let's work together because I certainly will work with you when you come forward with a bill that is going to affect your cities. I urge you to reject Senator Fenger's motion and let the City of Omaha handle the problem they have. I'm certain that is what is going to happen. There are many people in the City of Omaha that object to the occupation tax. I'm sure they'll let their city council know. I'm certain they will let the mayor know. If the majority of the people decide that that is what they want, then we ought to be able to let them do it. We elect those people. We expect them, as we expect the members of the Legislature, to take care of their city as they expect us to take care of the state. Let them do as they feel is necessary to keep the city operating. If we do have a problem in the future, and have to go to an occupation tax, so be it. Let the city council and the mayor take the brunt of the objections, if there are any at that time. Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator Kilgarin. Senator Kilgarin, do you wish to speak on the motion? The Chair would advise that 17 minutes have expired on our 30 minute time on this motion.

SENATOR KILGARIN: Mr. President and colleagues, I will be very brief. I did a survey in my district. I mentioned some of Omaha's problems with regard to revenue because of some legislation we passed last year. I asked them what they found most acceptable if we needed to raise some revenue. Their first choice was the occupation tax. I don't, personally, support the occupation tax. I don't think it is the way to go, but I think that decision should be made in Omaha. I think that decision should be made by Omahans. I think that we need to let the Omaha City Council make that decision. So I would urge you to reject Senator Fenger's motion to bring LB 675 to the floor of the Legislature. Thank you.